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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/330
S/24290
15 July 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Items 30, 35 and 74 of the
preliminary list*
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER
ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 15 July 1992 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has the powers and responsibilities of the Provisional Government of Palestine, to bring the following to your immediate attention:

Since early yesterday, more than 5,000 students, faculty and staff of Al-Najah University in Nablus, occupied Palestinian West Bank, have been under siege on campus by Israeli occupying forces. The students were exercising their democratic right to elect their student government, when a large number of Israeli soldiers surrounded the University, intimidating and harassing everyone on campus. It has been almost two days of stand-off without having any access to food or medical services for the needy inside the besieged University. This critical situation is endangering the lives of many Palestinians at Al-Najah University. During the same time, another Palestinian, Imad Shqiqat, 27, was assassinated in Jaba'a village near Jenin on 13 July 1992 by Israeli members of the death squads.

* A/47/50.

These and all other illegal Israeli measures are violations of the norms of international law and of United Nations resolutions, especially Security Council resolutions. It is, further, a clear threat to the security and safety of our people under Israeli occupation.

We call upon the United Nations, especially the Security Council, to provide international protection for the Palestinian people living in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem. We call further on the Secretary-General to use his good offices and the mandate given to him by Security Council resolution 681 (1990).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 30, 35 and 74 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer of
Palestine to the United Nations

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General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/46/946
S/24291
15 July 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 37
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 15 July 1992 From the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the concluding remarks made by His Eminence Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR at the International Hearing on Political Violence in South Africa and the implementation of the National Peace Accord, co-sponsored by the Special Committee against Apartheid, held in London from 14 to 15 July 1992 (see annex).

I would appreciate it if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 37, and the Security Council.

(Signed) Ibrahim GAMBARI
Chairman of the Special
Committee against Apartheid

ANNEX

Concluding remarks made by Archbishop Trevor Huddleston CR on 15 July 1992 at the International Hearing on Political Violence in South Africa

Implementation of the National Peace Accord

This International Hearing on Political Violence in South Africa has taken place at a most decisive moment in history - we are at a turning-point in the efforts of the people of South Africa and the international community to transform South Africa from an apartheid State to a democratic and non-racial society.

The International Hearing was convened with three objectives:

(a) To receive evidence on political violence and the threat it poses to the democratic transformation of South Africa;

(b) To assess the initiatives which have been taken to stop the violence and to consider the contribution which the international community can make;

(c) To alert international public opinion to the issues at stake.

The International Hearing has clearly achieved these objectives. It has served as a unique opportunity for the international community to learn the truth about political violence from a diverse range of experts and witnesses from South Africa, as well as from written memoranda, reports and other documentation.

There is a common understanding that the root cause of the violence in South Africa is the system of apartheid and that it will only be the creation of a new united, non-racial and democratic South Africa that will ensure a climate in which peace can flourish and the culture of violence can be destroyed.

It is self-evident that political violence has now reached such levels that it seriously threatens the prospects for the democratic transformation of South Africa. It has led to the breakdown of the negotiating process taking place through the Convention for a Democratic South Africa and is of such a character that it would certainly prevent democratic elections taking place in many parts of South Africa.

The International Hearing provided an opportunity to identify the key issues which need to be addressed so that a climate can be created in which bona fide negotiations can take place as envisaged in the United Nations Declaration on South Africa. The most important of these issues are:

(a) The continued programme of covert operations being undertaken by the South African regime;

(b) The existence of special units, including foreign forces, such as Koevoet and Battalion 32, which are directly linked to the promotion and instigation of violence;

(c) The lack of confidence by the Black majority in the police and security forces which are perceived as an instrument of repression against those seeking democratic change;

(d) The failure to investigate thoroughly acts of political violence and to bring prosecutions against those involved, including the failure to provide protection of witnesses;

(e) The cover-up of cases in which members of the security forces are involved in instigating and fomenting political violence;

(f) The transformation of many single-sex hostels into bases from which attacks are carried out;

(g) The failure to introduce effective controls to ban the carrying of dangerous weapons and the refusal by the police to implement existing controls.

The primary responsibility for the political violence must rest with the South African regime, since it has failed to take effective measures to end it.

The National Peace Accord and the Goldstone Commission were envisaged as mechanisms by which these issues could be addressed, yet they have been effectively subverted by the South African regime. Indeed the South African regime has ignored many of the recommendations of the Goldstone Commission.

Evidence presented to the International Hearing confirmed that the objectives of the National Peace Accord have not been achieved and therefore special initiatives are now required, including the involvement of the international community, in order to achieve an end to political violence.

The United Nations, together with other appropriate intergovernmental bodies including the Organization of African Unity, the Commonwealth and the European Community, are already seized of this issue.

Decisive action is now required. There are three immediate and urgent challenges:

Firstly, the international community must intervene, through the establishment of appropriate mechanisms, to ensure not only the effective monitoring of political violence which would require wide investigative and other powers, but also the means to end the violence;

Secondly, the international community must apply the maximum possible pressure onto the South African regime so that it takes effective steps to stop the violence on the basis of the positions set out by the liberation movements, as well as the religious bodies, trade unions and other democratic organizations;

Thirdly, in order to prevent the South African regime from continuing to frustrate the process to establish a new democratic order, the international community must participate fully in the process, as provided for in the United Nations Declaration on South Africa.

There can be no prospect of bona fide negotiations taking place as envisaged in the United Nations Declaration on South Africa, unless the international community now takes such action.

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Distr.
GENERAL

S/24292
15 July 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 JULY 1992 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement made by the Reverend Frank Chikane, General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches, at the International Hearing on Political Violence in South Africa and the Implementation of the National Peace Accord, co-sponsored by the Special Committee against Apartheid, held in London on 14 and 15 July 1992.

I would appreciate it if the present letter and the attached statement could be circulated as document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ibrahim GAMBARI
Chairman
Special Committee against Apartheid

Annex

Opening address to the International Hearing on Violence in South Africa and the Implementation of the National Peace Accord

I would like to express our thanks to the British Anti-Apartheid Movement, particularly Archbishop Trevor Huddleston for organizing this event on political violence in South Africa with an intention of assisting to resolve this crisis. I would like to also thank the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid for sponsoring and supporting this important hearing.

South Africa is part and parcel of the world. It is part of what is often called a global village and, as such, whatever happens there affects the international community equally. As long as one part of this globe has no peace, there will be no peace in the world. Your interest therefore in our plight in South Africa is welcome and appreciated. This event has the potential of giving our people in South Africa hope that a solution will be produced soon to end the violence. There is a lot of feeling of hopelessness, of people who are victims of circumstances because of this senseless violence.

Our country has not known peace since 1652 and more so since the imposition of the apartheid system in 1948. But the 1980s and 1990s have witnessed the worst violence ever. This violence is related, first, to the security force suppression of the people's resistance to the apartheid system. And lately, it is part of the strategy of the Government of destabilization and weakening of opposing parties in the negotiation process.

Following the 2 February 1990 announcement of the de Klerk Government to unban the liberation movements and to enter into negotiations, we warned that the violence that was escalating then formed a serious threat and obstacle to the negotiation process. Once negotiations had started in one form or another, we warned again that this violence threatened the process itself.

Between 2 February 1990 and 1 October 1991, church leaders of the South African Council of Churches met Mr. de Klerk three times. And in these meetings preliminary evidence of allegations of security force involvement in the violence was presented to him. We made him aware of the general loss of confidence in the security forces by the majority of South Africans.

As a result of this violence, the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) gave the Government an ultimatum in May 1991 to act on certain aspects of this violence before 9 May 1991, failing which there would be no talks between the Government and ANC. This crisis called for church leaders to intervene to get the negotiation process back on track. Following this intervention, broad forum of churches and businesses was constituted to facilitate the process that led to the National Peace Accord.

The National Peace Accord and various other factors opened the way for a possibility of a negotiated settlement in South Africa. But the violence continued to threaten this process. As a result, church leaders of the South African Council of Churches convened an emergency summit of leaders of affected areas to work out a joint strategy on how to end the violence. A statement in this regard was adopted leading to two follow-up working groups on matters that dealt with international monitoring and involvement of the international community and general implementation strategies on decisions of leaders. I will not bore you with the details. The three documents could be made available for your study.

In the same breath, church leaders also requested a meeting with Mr. de Klerk to impress on him once more the seriousness and dangers of the violence and presented to him concrete proposals on how this violence could be ended. A detailed memorandum was presented to him and it has been put as part of the package for the present hearing. Unfortunately, since 22 May 1992, when we met Mr. de Klerk, there has been no response to that memorandum.

This International Hearing meets at a time when we are faced with the worst crisis ever in the country. There is a deadlock at the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA) regarding constitutional negotiations and related matters of the process of negotiations. Many would ask what the nature of the deadlock is. And I would summarize it by saying that the minority Government understandably fears democracy. That if democracy took its course it would lose power. And its intention of entering into a negotiation process was not to lose power but to be part of that control of power. And that is understandable when it comes to people who are in the minority. But, unfortunately, democracy requires that the people of the country make the choices that they would want to have. The key question that is facing South Africa today is whether the people of South Africa participate in the production of a constitution for that country, or some group that is not elected produces a constitution and imposes it on the people. And that to me is the element of the deadlock.

But we are not only faced with a deadlock, we are also faced with a call for mass action to force the apartheid regime out of power, or to cause it to remove all constraints to the process of transition to democracy. This has been undertaken because of the deadlock. People who are voteless and cannot follow ordinary processes of elections and deciding on the future of the country resort to methods that they believe are the best at a particular given time. And this has been the method that has been resorted to.

On the other hand, there is also a third element in this crisis: a build-up since 16 June 1992 of a violent response of forces of darkness to mass action. In fact, the prophets of doom want to prove and fulfil their prophesy - mass action will cause violence. And so when people undertake it, then forces of darkness come and murder people so that the world can believe that, indeed, it causes violence. A close examination of the violence around 16 June and the days after shows that in fact the violence came from outside

people who made or were involved in the action, rather than people who were themselves involved.

That action by forces of darkness has resulted in the Boipatong massacre and various other incidents of brutal killings of innocent civilians in the country.

The fourth element is that all this had led to the breakdown in the negotiation process. CODESA has been put aside and there have been exchanges of memoranda and a moratorium has been declared on exchanges of memoranda as well. And so we are faced with the worst crisis ever.

To put this violence in perspective, I have chosen to deal, rather, with the historical sources of this violence in South Africa and focusing specifically on the role of the apartheid regime in this violence. I'm doing this so that all those who will present evidence in the hearings of specific activity and involvement of one group or another in the violence will have the context within which they present it. I have chosen rather to deal with the Government and some would ask why have I chosen to do so. There are two reasons. One is that the rest of the other complexities of the violence will be dealt with during these hearings and I wish you all the luck in that exercise. But the second and the main reason is that whilst church leaders are aware of the complex nature of this violence and the fact that there are other parties implicated in this regard, we believe that the South African Government is primarily responsible for the violence. Our conclusion is based on the following.

First, it is the historical involvement of the South African Government in violence itself. All of us know that the regime was structured in such a way that it institutionally violated the rights of the majority of South Africans. The racist apartheid Government and the system was violently imposed on the people, causing untold harm, misery and death to many of our people over many years.

To suppress the people's resistance, they used naked force, including detention without trial, torture and long-term imprisonment of opponents of apartheid. This naked violence of the regime started a spiral of violence in the form of counter-violence and more violence.

It is now history that the Government considered the people's resistance as part of a total onslaught against the White minority and thus developed an elaborate strategy called "total strategy" against what was perceived as a "total onslaught" against it. This total strategy meant total war against all those opposed to the regime, both inside the country and outside the country. This involved mass detentions, repressive security legislation, restrictions on the press, etc. It involved getting engaged in covert operations involving assassinations, special forces, murder squads and hit squads. And more revelations of commissions, evidence in commissions have shown that this was the way in which the Government operated. The only way the revelations take

me shows beyond doubt that in fact the Government was involved at the highest level.

But this violence of apartheid has created a spirit of intolerance amongst the people of South Africa. Apartheid was intolerant and therefore people learned to be intolerant. People learned to be violent as a way of resolving their problems. Because of this intolerance and the resort to violence as a means of solving problems we have created a culture of violence in the country. A culture of intolerance that South Africa will suffer under for a long, long time. The violence, therefore, as designed, was such that it would then appear in terms of covert designs and operations to be a "Black on Black" violence, or to look like it is a "Black on Black" violence.

The revelations have made it unnecessary for me to sing the song I have been singing up to July last year, of saying this is not just a tribal violence. This is not just "Black on Black" violence. This is a well-designed form of violence that has political intentions. The violence in the country has taken a momentum of its own and ultimately is becoming self-perpetuating.

Whilst those who triggered it may look innocent, they are responsible for that spiral of violence we are facing. The second reason that we believe that the Government must take responsibility is the Government's failure to cap the violence. That Government was very efficient in dealing with us. I'm one of those people who knew how effective they were. There was no time when we held a meeting and did not expect that they would know about it. There was no time when we planned peaceful activity, when we did not expect that they would know about it and interfere with it. They have been effective in pre-empting even peaceful protest, which we tried to plan in a way they would not know. They arrested many of our people and suddenly the same effective security force has lost its capacity to deal with the type of violence we are facing in the country.

We argue that they have no intention to stop the violence and that the violence is a continuation of the covert operations which are part of the security forces and therefore have no ability, no capacity to end that violence.

The third reason is that this Government has a responsibility as Government. We believe that it is not a legitimate Government. But it is a legal authority. It has responsibility for the security forces. No one outside the Government can stop the violence except a legal authority with security forces. And unless there is an alternative peace-keeping force or an alternative form of security force, all specialized and trained for that purpose, we are unlikely to end the violence.

The Government cannot argue for sovereignty of State and that it is the legal authority and pass the responsibility for ending violence to othepeople.

I would like to summarize by saying that we believe that there are other groups that are involved in violence. And the evidence will indicate in that direction. But we believe that the Government is primarily responsible and that unless the Government takes responsibility to end the violence no one outside that Government can stop it. And unless we gain access to their covert operations no one will be able to stop the violence in the country.

And so the ball is right in the court of the apartheid regime and we have to make sure that all South Africans and the international community constrain the Government in South Africa, in the interim, to stop the violence until such time that interim mechanisms take responsibility for the security forces.

Secondly, I would like to submit to you, which submission I've made last week to our conference of the South African Council of Churches, that the Government has had a strategy that is twofold. The first part of the strategy was a strategy of destabilizing those it negotiated with, whilst negotiating with them, saying which they would resort to what others have called "Plan B". And this Plan B would mean that in the process of negotiations and giving credibility to the South African Government, entering into international relations would give the Government such an image that anybody who questioned their bona fides would lose the propaganda war. And having lost the propaganda war the suppression of those people would be justified. I would like to ask you to be vigilant as you deal with this violence during these two days.

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GENERAL

S/24293
15 July 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 JULY 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LEBANON TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that the Lebanese Government has decided to request the Security Council to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which expires on 31 July 1992, for a further period of six months, on the basis of the provisions of Security Council resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978), 501 (1982), 508 (1982), 509 (1982) and of all other relevant resolutions and decisions of the Security Council.

Since the last renewal of UNIFIL, the Government of Lebanon continues to deliver the nation unto a process of normalization and consolidate the peace, national unity and security, which are requisite to lasting stability. In this context, it has set plans for displaced persons, who were forced out by civil strife and insecurity to return to their homes. Furthermore, in conformity with the principles and timetable of the Taif Agreement, the Government has taken the decision to collect all light weapons; a process presently under way in different regions of the country. Equally, the Government has taken the decision to conduct in the coming weeks the nation's first parliamentary elections in 20 years; a step which will revitalize the democratic institutions on which Lebanon was founded.

In addition, my Government is pleased to report that extant perfect coordination between the command of UNIFIL and the Lebanese army resulted in UNIFIL's decision in January 1992 to hand over to the Lebanese army the western part of the Ghanaian battalion sector, enabling UNIFIL to strengthen its deployment elsewhere in its area of operation.

In spite of all these positive achievements by the people and Government of Lebanon to consolidate national unity, Israel, on the contrary, is doing everything in its power to undermine this process. Irrespective of the participation of both countries in the Arab-Israeli Peace Conference, Israel has intensified its efforts to destabilize and terrorize Lebanon. In perpetuating its occupation of the south, Israel subjects Lebanese citizens to daily air raids and bombardments and then in the ensuing cycle of violence blames the innocent victims for a conflict wholly resultant of Israel's 14-year occupation.

Since January of this year, and in spite of Israel's alleged commitment to the ongoing peace process, Lebanon has submitted numerous letters of complaint to the Secretary-General, detailing series of attacks, assaults and raids on Lebanese citizens and properties by the Israeli military and its proxies. Homes and schools have been targeted and destroyed by the Israeli military, whole families have perished under Israeli bombardment, and thousands of villagers have fled in panic and terror due to ultimatums threatening death or imprisonment if they do not evacuate their homes.

The Lebanese Government calls the attention of the Council to Israel's perpetual state of attack against Lebanon, as well as to Israel's flagrant routine incursions beyond the area under its occupation. It implores the Council to take new and vigorous steps to bring an end to Israel's violent reign of terror, through the prompt implementation of its resolution 425 (1978) and the galvanization of its mechanism set out in resolution 426 (1978), which will enable the Lebanese Government to extend its authority over the entire south of the country up to its internationally recognized boundaries.

Due to the interminable and malevolent nature of the Israeli occupation of part of Lebanon, a founding member of the United Nations, the time has come for the Security Council to institute a timetable for the implementation of resolution 425 (1978). At a time when Israel's continued occupation poses a great threat to the peace process, and when the Security Council has crossed great hurdles to demonstrate its clout as the ultimate guarantor of the Charter of the United Nations, no less exigent a response can suffice.

In this context, the presence of UNIFIL continues to remain of utmost necessity to provide much of the needed assistance and international support for the civilian population faced with the brute and arbitrary nature of the Israeli occupation. However, this assistance cannot be a substitute for the fulfilment of UNIFIL's original mandate as stipulated in Security Council resolution 425 (1978), which is to ensure the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and to assist the Government of Lebanon, through the Lebanese army and internal security forces, in re-establishing its legitimate and effective authority in the area.

The Lebanese Government takes this opportunity to pay tribute to the UNIFIL command, troops and administrators, and to the troop-contributing countries for their efforts and sacrifices in serving the cause of peace. It also expresses its deep appreciation for the tireless endeavours of the Secretary-General and his assistants, which are instrumental in the valuable presence and mission of UNIFIL in southern Lebanon.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Khalil MAKKAWI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Distr.
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S/24294
15 July 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 14 JULY 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ESTONIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit a note verbale from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia dated 25 June 1992.

(Signed) Ernst JAAKSON
Ambassador

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Annex

Note verbale dated 25 June 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Estonia addressed to the Secretary-General

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia has the honour to inform the Secretary-General of the following with respect to paragraphs 8 and 9 of Security Council resolution 748 (1992):

Governmental decree No. 36 of 22 May 1992 established that "the competent authorities shall take appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of Security Council resolution 748 (1992) of 31 March 1992", prohibiting "the carrying out, within the framework of national jurisdiction, of the activities referred to in the resolution in question during the period in which it is in effect".

I should be very grateful if this note would be distributed as a document of the Security Council.

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GENERAL

S/24295
15 July 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 10 JULY 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MYANMAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Representative of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and with reference to his note dated 3 April 1992, has the honour to inform him that the Government of the Union of Myanmar, in conformity with article 25 of the Charter of the United Nations, instituted in time all necessary measures for meeting the obligations set out in Security Council resolution 748 (1992).

The Permanent Representative regrets that this information was inadvertently not communicated to the Secretary-General earlier.

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Distr.
GENERAL

S/24296
15 July 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 13 JULY 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF RWANDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of Rwanda to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to inform him that the Rwandese Government has taken the necessary steps to ensure compliance with its obligations under Security Council resolution 757 (1992), concerning the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/24297
16 July 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 JULY 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to present to you a letter, dated 14 July 1992, from the President of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, H.E. Mr. Alija Izetbegovic.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating the letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 14 July 1992 from the President of the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to Lieutenant-General L. MacKenzie, Sector Commander, Sarajevo, of the United Nations Protection Force

Yesterday Sarajevo was again fiercely bombarded, and in front of your own building two children were killed and several injured by mortar shells fired from Serbian terrorist positions.

I must remind you that Security Council resolution 758 (1992) requires the removal of all artillery from the airport zone, or its placement under UNPROFOR observation. This demand is repeated in the latest resolution of the Security Council of 13 July 1992. The continuing bombardment of the city as well as the tragedy that occurred in front of your building make it clear that this has not been done.

We ask you immediately to inform the Security Council of this, and to demand that the Council takes appropriate measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

(Signed) Alija IZETBEGOVIC

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Distr.
GENERAL

S/24298
16 July 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 JULY 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to request that, during its meetings devoted to consideration of the item entitled "The question of South Africa", the Security Council, under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure, extend an invitation to the following individuals:

Mr. Bantu Holomisa
Mr. Essop Pahad
Mr. Philip Mahlangu
Mr. Manguezi Zitha

(Signed) C. R. GHAREKHAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Distr.
GENERAL

S/24299
16 July 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 15 JULY 1992 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF BELGIUM, FRANCE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We have the honour to bring to your attention the text of a statement on the bombardment of Gorazde adopted on 14 July by the European Community and its member States.

We should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council

(Signed) Paul NOTERDAEME
Permanent Representative of Belgium

(Signed) Jean-Bernard P. M. P. MERIMEE
Permanent Representative of France

(Signed) Sir David HANNAY
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom

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Annex

Statement on the bombardment of Gorazde

(European Political Cooperation press release of 14 July 1992)

[Original: English and French]

The European Community and its member States make clear their condemnation of the bombardment by Serb forces of the city of Gorazde and other cities in Bosnia. These brutal and indiscriminate attacks upon defenceless civilians are wholly contrary to the basic humanitarian precepts of international law.

They call for an immediate end to these attacks, urgent measures to relieve the suffering and deprivation of the population, and for a resumption, without preconditions and in good faith by all parties concerned, of serious negotiations in Lord Carrington's conference.